

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0049] A method and apparatus for assembling a wellscreen onto a perforated base pipe are provided. The wellscreen defines a tubular body which is suitable for subterranean use in oil, gas, and water wells. In accordance with the present invention, the wellscreen first defines a perforated base pipe having termination members at its opposite ends. Disposed on each termination member is a continuous helical, step-tiered surface. The helical surface serves as a support surface for a layer of filtering material which is rolled around the base pipe. The filtering material is pre-cut to a correct diameter and bias to match the diameters and bias of the spiraling termination support surfaces. The filtering material is connected to the rings to form a substantial seal on the opposite ends. A protective, perforated outer shroud is optionally disposed around the filtering media as well.